

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

Hans WETTSTEIN *et al.*

Application No.: **10/808,493**

Filing Date: 25 March 2004

For: Axial-flow Thermal Turbomachine

Art Unit: 3745

Examiner: Hanan, Devin J.

Attorney Ref. No.: 003-123

**Via EFS-Web**

**COMMENTS ON EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

**Mail Stop ISSUE FEE**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Notices of Allowance and Allowability dated 16 December 2005 for the above-captioned patent application. An Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance was appended to the Notice of Allowability. Applicant has the following comments.

While the claimed combinations are patentable over the prior art for the reasons presented therein, the claimed combinations are patentable for many more reasons. More specifically, the patentability of the claimed combinations is not limited to the particular subset of features identified in the Statement, but rather it is the entire combinations of elements and/or steps in the claims, each claim taken as a whole, that are patentable over the prior art, the prior art both taken alone and in hypothetical combination.

If additional fees are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-2821.

Respectfully submitted,

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